

# A New Era for Screening and Treatment of Hepatitis C

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Hepatitis C Screening: Key Issues and Evidence

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# Definition of “HCV Screening” – Are we all on the same page?

No

Often confusion around

: The purpose of screening

: What constitutes a screening initiative

Have EU or EU associated professional organisations/ initiatives been robust enough in advocating HCV Screening generally?

Yes

- : VHPB reports
- : EASL clin guidelines
- : WHO strategy
- : ECDC/EMCDDA guidelines
- : Hep B & C Public Policy Association calls for action

Have the major Third Sector organisations been robust enough in advocating HCV Screening generally?

Yes

- : ELPA – advocacy targeted at EU commission
- EuroHepatitis Index
- : WHA – Am I number 12?
- World Hepatitis Day

# Is HCV Screening policy at EU MS level well understood?

Yes and No

- : ECDC report 2010
- : Euro Hepatitis Index 2012
- : WHO Survey 2013
- : VHPB country reports

# Is EU Guidance on HCV Screening clear and well documented?

Yes and No

- : For PWID excellent (ECDC/EMCDDA)
- : Lists of people at increased risk
- : WHO Guidelines imminent
- : ECDC funded cost-effectiveness model on the horizon

# Are detailed guidelines on how to implement screening initiatives available/imminent?

- Yes and No**
- : ECDC/EMCDDA for PWID
  - : NICE Guidelines (UK) 2012/2013
  - : EU HepScreen 2014
  - : Not for mass population screening

# Do HCV Screening performance data at EU MS level need to be improved?

Yes

- : Need to know proportion of Infected, diagnosed
- : ECDC reports 2010
- : ECDC report 2012

Is an EU approved high level  
strategic approach to Hepatitis  
Screening on the horizon?

**Yes** : EU Hep Frame

# Are the challenges of HCV Screening greater than that for HIV?

Yes

: For targeted screening particularly

: Also importance of HCV Screening less acknowledged

Are there new technologies which can aid the screening process?

Yes

: DBS sampling

: Near patient testing

Does HCV Screening always convey benefit?

**No** : Reduced quality of life if infection status known

Are there additional benefits of HCV  
Screening – i.e. other than just the  
obvious ones?

Yes

: The potential for population  
as well as individual benefit  
i.e. treat to prevent onward  
transmission

# Is the evidence base on HCV Screening cost-effectiveness robust?

No

: Small number of studies of  
cost-effectiveness

: Small numbers of studies of  
impact of screening

Is there any consensus regarding  
an HCV prevalence cost-  
effectiveness threshold?

**Yes** : 1 – 2% for all  
except PWID

Is cost-effectiveness the only factor  
in considering whether to screen or  
not to screen?

No

: Setting-specific  
circumstances